

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

Claims 1-13. (Cancelled)

5 14. (New) A method for measuring the oxygen content in a closed target space, particularly for monitoring inertization levels in an inert gas device for fire prevention and/or fire extinguishing, the method comprising:

 drawing an air sample from the target space with one or more suction holes of a suction pipe system;

10 determining a first measurement value of the oxygen concentration in the drawn air sample with an oxygen sensor;

 determining a second measurement value of the oxygen concentration in the drawn air sample with a reference oxygen sensor;

 comparing the first measurement value to the second measurement value;

15 and

 issuing a disturbance signal from one of the oxygen sensor or the reference oxygen sensor when deviation of the first measurement value from the second measurement value exceeds a predetermined amount.

20 15. (New) A method as defined in claim 14, further comprising:

 comparing, in the oxygen sensor, the first measurement value of the oxygen concentration of the air sample to a fixed threshold value; and

 lowering the oxygen concentration by the infusion of inert gas into the target space when the threshold value is exceeded.

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 16. (New) A method as defined in claim 14, further comprising:

 measuring fire parameters in the drawn air sample with a detector; and

 sending a signal from the detector for full inertization of the target space when a fire parameter is detected

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17. (New) A method as defined in to claim 16, wherein the fire parameters that are detected in the detector include at least one of smoke in the form of particulates, aerosols, vapor, and at least one combustion gas.

5 18. (New) A method as defined in claim 17, wherein the combustion gas detected in the detector is CO or CO₂.

19. (New) A method as defined in claim 14, further comprising:
monitoring CO and/or CO₂ content in the drawn air sample with a CO
10 and/or CO₂ sensor; and
supplying fresh air to the target space dependent on a measurement value of the CO and/or CO₂ content.

20. (New) A method as defined in claim 14, wherein the reference oxygen
15 is switched on at regular time intervals.

21. (New) A method as defined in claim 15, further comprising:
following the issuing of the disturbance signal, continuously determining
the oxygen concentration in the air sample with the reference oxygen sensor,
20 whereupon additional evaluation of the first measurement value of the oxygen concentration in is performed with the aid of the second measurement value that is determined by the reference oxygen sensor instead of the first measurement value determined by the oxygen sensor.

22. (New) An apparatus measuring the oxygen content in a closed target
25 space, particularly as part of an inert gas device for fire prevention and/or fire extinguishing in a closed room, the apparatus comprising:

at least one suction pipe system configured to suck an air sample from the
monitored target space through various holes;
30 an oxygen sensor to measure oxygen concentration in the air sample that is drawn from the target space and determine a first measurement value; and

a reference oxygen sensor to measure oxygen concentration in the air sample that is drawn from the target space and determine a second measurement value to be used as a reference relative to the first measurement value of the oxygen sensor.

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23. (New) An apparatus as defined in claim 22, wherein at least one of the oxygen sensor and the reference oxygen sensor is integrated in the at least one suction pipe systems.

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24. (New) An apparatus as defined in claim 22, further comprising:

a fan and fresh air supply;

a control that is configured to set inertization levels in the target space, and control the fresh air supply and fan; and

15 at least one detector to detect fire parameters in an air sample that is drawn from the target space by the at least one suction pipe system.

25. (New) An apparatus as defined in claim 22, wherein the at least one detector is integrated in the at least one suction pipe system.

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26. (New) An apparatus as defined in claim 22, further comprising:

at least one CO or CO₂ sensor to measure the air quality in an air sample that is drawn from the target space by the at least one suction pipe system.

27. (New) An apparatus as defined in claim 26, wherein at least one of the
25 CO or CO₂ sensors is integrated in the at least one suction pipe system.

28. (New) An apparatus as defined in claim 22, wherein the oxygen sensors comprise electrochemical cells of zirconium dioxide.